Approved For Release 2002/08/06: CIA-RDP80-00809A000700210069-8

OAR 1904 25X1A CLASSIFICATION RESURE TO THE TRANSPORTED TO THE TRA REPORT NO CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY INFORMATION FROM FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS CD NO. --COUNTRY Bulgaria DATE OF INFORMATION 1952 SUBJEČT Economic - Industry, agriculture, trade Sociological - Standard of living HOW 4 MAY 1953 DATE DIST. **PUBLISHED** Monthly periodical WHERE PUBLISHED NO. OF PAGES Sofia DATE PUBLISHED Sep 1952 SUPPLEMENT TO LANGUAGE Bulgarian REPORT NO.

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SOURCE

Bulgaro-Suvetska Druzhba, 1952

BULGARIAN ECONOMIC PROGRESS, 1951, 1952

Prof Dinko Tosbev

After the fulfillment of the Five-Year Plan, which is expected at the end of 1952, Bulgaria will change from an agricultural-industrial to an industrial-agricultural country. At the beginning of the Five-Year Plan (1949), Bulgarian industrial production (without the trades) comprised 30.70 percent, as compared to agricultural production, while at the end of 1952, it will comprise 45.55 percent of all production. A similar relationship will be noted at the end of 1952 between light and heavy industry (the latter includes power and coal production). Light industry comprised 74.26 percent of the industrial production in 1949, as compared to heavy industry, but will drop to 55.45 percent at the end of 1952.

The following table shows the capital investments, according to the plan, for industrial purposes in billions of new leve during 1939, 1948, and 1953:

	1939 1948 /Fulfillment?/		1953 <u>Plan</u>	
Industry in general	4.5	7.6	13.8	
Reavy industry	1.5	2.6	8.7	
Light industry	2.8	4.2	5.1	
Power-station construction	0.2	8.0	4.1	

During 1949, the industrial production? plan was fulfilled 121 percent, i.e., the electrification plan was fulfilled 115 percent, extractive industry 124, and miscellaneous industry 119. During 1949, 5,104 industrial projects were completed, including 219 of national significance.

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Capital investments for industrial purposes were 40.6 percent greater in 1951 than in 1950. The following projects were completed and put into operation during 1951: the "Stalin" Chemical Combine and the "Vulko Chervenkov" TETs (Steam Heat and Electric Power Station), in Dimitrovgrad, the "Stalin" TETs in Sofia, the expanded "Vucha" VETs (Hydroelectric Power Station) in Devin, the "Asenets" [Asenitsa?] VETs in [Asenovgrad?], the "Tuzha" VETs in Enina in Kazanluk Okoliya, the "Kitka" VETs in Gorni Lom in Belogradchik Okoliya, the "Vidima" VETs near Vidima in Sevlievo Okoliya, the "Petrovo" VETs in Petrovo in [Sandanski Okoliya?], the "Vasil Kolarov" Dam near Devin, the "Georgi Kirkov" zavod za parni kotli (Boiler Plant) in Sofia, the "Ernst Telman" predachna fabrika (Spinning Mill) in Sofia, the "Asen Khalachev" tekstilen zavod (Textile Mill) in Pleven, the "Republika" TETs in Moshino in Dimitrovo Okoliya, and the "Dimitrovo" TETs in [Dimitrovo?]

The following projects are expected to be completed or partially completed during 1952: The "Lewin" Metallurgical Plant near Dimitrovo, the Soda Plant near Devnya in Provadiya Okoliya, the Cellulose Plant ["Stefam Kiradzhiev" Cellulose Plant | near Gara Krichim in Plovdiv Okoliya, the Colophony Plant in Velingrad, [formerly Ludzhene] in Pazardzhik Okoliya, the Carbide Plant near Asenovgrad, the Tannin Factory in [Knyazhevo]], the third cement kiln of the "Vulkan" Cement Plant in Dimitrovgrad, the "Stalim" Dam near Dolni Pasarel in Samokov Okoliya, the "Vasil Kolarov" TETs in [Burgas]], the "Klisura" VETs near Klisura in Pirdop Okoliya or Karlovo Okoliya, the "Radomirtsi" VETs [near Radomirtsi in Iukovit Okoliya], the "Ustovo" VETs in Ustovo in Smolyan Okoliya, the "Asenitsa 2" VETs in [Asenovgrad]], the "Rositsa" Dam in Sevlievo Okoliya, and the "Studena" Dam in Dimitrovo.

The following table shows the Five-Year-Plan fulfillment fin percentages of various industrial branches between 1949 and the second quarter of 1952:

	1949	1950	1951	1952 (2d qu)
Electric power	115	121.1	127.4	140
Hard coal	122	110.5	108.2	112
Electric motors	355	142.8	128.2	192
Cement	130	122.2	105.9	104
Plate glass	130	102.7	141.4	131
Automobile tires	215	158.6		196

Industrial production at the end of 1951 was four times as great as in 1939.

Agriculture

At present there are 2,740 trudovo-proizvoditelna kooperatsiya (labor-production copartnerships) and about 115 MTS (machine tractor stations) in Bulgaria. Bulgaria has now almost 12,000 tractors and 1,000 modern combines. Soon 400,000 hectares will be irrigated. Production per unit area has increased 1.4 times for wheat, 1.9 times for corn, and almost 1.5 times for sunflower [in 1952, as compared to 1939?]. For example, Viktor Mladenov of the TKZS (Farm Workers: Cooperative) in Rasovo, Lom Okoliya, produced per hectare 8,400 kilograms of corn, 3,040 kilograms of wheat, 2,970 kilograms of sunflower, and 51,000 kilograms of sugar beets.

About 93 percent of TKZS have cattle farms, 61 percent have hog farms, 98 percent have sheep farms, and 70 percent have poultry farms.

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Commerce

According to data from July 1952, the turnover of goods in Bulgaria was as follows: 52 percent for state commercial enterprises, 47.2 percent for cooperative commercial enterprises, and 0.8 percent for private enterprises. In accordance with a decree by the Council of Ministers of 20 August 1952, the Ministry of [Internal] Trade must in 1953 build market places in all large towns which will be given to TKZS, which in turn will establish cooperative markets there.

The plan for the turnover of goods was 14 percent greater in 1949 than in 1948, 16.3 percent greater in 1950 than in 1949, and 18.7 percent greater in 1951 than in 1950. During the second quarter of 1952, 14.8 percent more goods were sold to the population than during the second quarter of 1951. There was a 10-percent increase in the turnover of goods during July 1952, as compared to May 1952. The Five-Year Plan for the fulfillment of the turnover of goods by the socialist sector was fulfilled in 3 years.

Standard of Living

When the Five-Year Plan is fulfilled, the average pay of a worker will increase 13.8 percent, as compared to 1948. At present, a miner receives 35-45 leva per day, but sometimes he receives over 60 leva per day. A miner pays 15-20 leva per month for an apartment with two rooms and a kitchen and receives 35 days of paid leave per year. He is pensioned after 15 years of work and may accept another position without losing his pension.

About 60-70 percent of Bulgarian university students are children of workers and receive scholarships.

On account of the last two price decreases this year, Bulgarian workers will save about 2,150 million new leva /per year? A family of five will save 106 leva per month as a result of the lowering of prices of only milk and bread; a family of four, 86 leva; and a family of three, 75 leva. The lowering of prices for these two products will increase the purchasing power of a worker 10-15 percent per month.



